(b) During PM's visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt in October 95, an Agreement to combat all forms of criminal acts particularly those relating to terrorists, transnational and organized crime was signed. This agreement is aimed to achieve better coordination and cooperation between the two countries so as to effectively deal with the menace of terrorism and organized crime.

The agreement aims at exchange of information about activities and crimes of terrorist groups, their membership, leadership, locations and means of finance and arms they use. Also, it is proposed to exchange information on various methods of anti-terrorist organizations and information pertaining to scientific and technological experience in the field of protection and security of sea, air and rail transportation. In addition, both countries shall be in position to exchange information relating to modern methods and techniques about transnational organized crime combating agencies. The data regarding joint measures to ensure combating of crimes and offences such as money smuggling, smuggling of antiques and art-objects and illegal marketing of vehicles shall be also exchanged.

Travelling Concessions for Senior Citizens

4079. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering to bring down the cut off age for eligibility of senior citizens for travelling in trains to sixty years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Due to increasing cost of operations and resource constraints, Railways do not propose to extend the scope of concessions, by bringing down the cut off age from 65 years to 60 years.

Railway Recruitment Board

4080. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railway Recruitment Board, Patna had invited applications for the posts of Commercial Clerks, Office Clerks, Ticket Collectors etc., vide advertisement number RRB-PAT-2-90-91;

(b) whether majority of the selected candidates have not been issued joining letters since the year 1992;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the Government propose to issue joining letters to the selected candidates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). Due to shrinkage of work in various railway units, surrender of posts and a number of staff being rendered surplus, involving their re-deployment in alternative categories including those for which the selection was held. In view of this it is not possible to fix a target date for issue of offers of appointment.

Computerized Close Circuits

4081. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railways propose to instal computerized close circuits at various railway stations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the purpose of installing these computerized close circuits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Railways are contemplating the proposal to instal computerized close circuit TVs at Railway Stations, Yards, Good-Sheds, Parcel Offices and Workshops which are vulnerable to crimes with a view to preventing pilferage of parcels and goods booked by Rail Users as well as other Railway property. The feasibility of the proposal is under examination keeping in view the financial implications and the effectiveness of the system.

[Translation]

Stoppage of Local Trains

4082. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the stoppage of local trains at Kochagarah Station (between Telo and Chandrapura) of the Eastern Railway has been cancelled;

(b) if so, the reasons for depriving the people of this area of the rail service;

(c) whether the Government propose to restore the stoppage of local trains at the said station; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.